



L. PATRICK GRAY, acting director of the FBI, talks to newsmen in the Widener Building.

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No Secret Dossiers Found,

By HENRY DARLING

Of The Bulletin Staff

L. Patrick Gray, newly appointed acting director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, says he has not yet found any secret dossiers in the bureau's files.

But he added that it's possible—but improbable—such papers could exist without the director's knowledge.

Gray came to Philadelphia yesterday to visit the local FBI office, one of a series of calls he is making on all 59 major bureau offices around the country.

Press Conference

About 2.30 P.M., after concluding the "main purpose" of his visit, he held a 20-minute, fast-paced press conference. The conference was held in the private office of Special Agent-In-Charge Joe D. Jamieson.

Most of his answers were direct, almost rehearsed. But he seemed a little unconvincing when questioned about the secret files.

He was reminded that columnist Jack Anderson had listed the file numbers of dossiers on prominent persons such as Jane Fonda and Coretta King, widow of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

No Comment

He said he had no comment on information supplied by Anderson.

"He exercised his right as a newsman to write a column," he said. "If I choose not to read his column that's my right, too."

The new FBI chief came up with no really surprising answers to any of the questions.

He said he thinks the U. S. Supreme Court will find the wiretapping laws constitutional and he said this will aid the FBI in its fight on organized crime.

The role of the FBI may be enlarged "a bit" to let it act in "air piracy" cases, he said adding he preferred the word piracy to hijacking to avoid any "glorification" of a criminal act.

Women Agents Possible

The bureau may well have

some women agents in the field in the future, he said, and male agents may have longer hair and more colorful apparel, he added, fingering the cuffs of his own blue shirt.

But there will be "no garish male finery" on the staff, he stated.

He said he expects to be acting director "as long as the President sees fit" and he promised to "open the window a little" on FBI operations.

But he noted that such information as the number of agents employed by the bureau or by individual FBI offices would remain secret in order not to "disclose our strength to those who want to violate the law."

Q: There was a decision last week by a federal judge in Philadelphia that the federal wiretap law was unconstitutional. Do you care to comment on that?

GRAY: I think that some United States district courts have found the law to be constitutional, some have found it not to be constitutional, and the issue is now before the Supreme Court in one form. And I would like to say that I believe that the Congress of the United States in enacting this legislation has proceeded most carefully. And I further believe that eventually this law will be held by the Supreme Court to be constitutional. It's a law that we need very, very much to have as one of our tools to combat organized crime. And we have used it to advantage and I would like further to say that the law is shrouded in protective features and it is not in my judgment an unconstitutional invasion.

Q: Isn't it possible that with so many various ramifications to that law, that there are some areas where the protection for the citizen could be tightened?

GRAY: I don't believe so. In the manner in which it is

operated now in accordance with the provisions of the law and the checks that are placed upon it and the court supervision that is given to the utilization of this procedure, I believe to be extremely well-designed to protect the constitutional rights of all our citizens.

Q: Are you saying that you don't think it could be any better designed to protect the citizen?

GRAY: I think at the present time the Congress has done a very, very fine job in developing this piece of legislation and in its implementation I have found it to be very, very carefully guarded with protective features. And without detailed analysis and study I certainly wouldn't want to be stating at this point in time that there are additional steps that the Congress could take to improve this particular law.

Q: Have you found any indications touring the Philadelphia office that some of your directives are already taking effect? More openness? More colored shirts, louder ties?

GRAY: No, I haven't seen any garish display of male finery. The people I've come across appear to me to still be very handsome and very neat. I believe that this will continued to be the pattern. Of course there will be some differences in style. I think you're going to find that the hair might be a little longer, but it certainly won't be unkempt. I think you might find that the shirts are a little bit more colorful. But really I think that's an individual choice now that they know how the acting director and the executive conference of the FBI feel about standards

of grooming and dress. I think you'll see some more colorful attire.

Q: How's the program going for the recruitment of women into the FBI?

GRAY: We're having quite a few calls. I don't know exactly the numbers of the applications that we now have in our various field offices. But I expect that eventually we will have some women who complete our interviewing processes, our examination processes, and our new-agent training and will be joining us in our field offices.

Q: Nobody's gone into training yet?

GRAY: Not yet.

Q: When do you expect to see the first lady FBI agent?

GRAY: I don't really have any time schedule on it except to let everyone know that I am interested in giving full and fair consideration to all applications including those from women and I think that message has premeated the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

Q: Along with more recruitment personnel do you have any plans to opened up any of the other offices of the FBI that have been closed down during the past year?

GRAY: No, I haven't even begun to look into that question. I've got so many more important things to address myself to that I've not considered that yet.

Q: Among the more important things, does the FBI plan to play an enlarged role concerning the hijacking of commercial airlines?

GRAY: I believe that with regard to air piracy, as I prefer to call it in order that we don't glorify these individuals who seek to commandeer our nation's aircraft, I believe it's safe to say that the role of the FBI may very well be enlarged just a bit. But the manner in which it will be enlarged I would not be prepared to discuss. Suffice it to say that some two weeks ago in Washington the airline presidents met with the Secretary of Transportation, I was present, the Assistant Attorney General in charge of the

criminal division was present, General (Benjamin O.) Davis (assistant secretary of transportation for safety) was present and we agreed there upon some additional procedures to be taken. And of course you can say that these procedures haven't yet been very effective because we have two hijackings last weekend. And that is true. Perhaps it is too soon to expect these procedures to be effective. But we

have taken some steps that we believe will enhance our protective capability. Not just within the FBI but within the other agencies involved.

Q: Would you be in a position now to elaborate on these expanded plans?

GRAY: No sir, I would not. I would not want to disclose our plans with regard to this very important matter. And I feel the less said about them is the better at this time.

Q: Mr. Gray, how long will you be acting?

GRAY: I expect that I will be acting as long as the President would see fit to keep me acting. I have no commitment from the President of the United States and I've merely been told that I will be among those considered for the permanent appointment at such time as a permanent appointment is made.

Q: Has the President set a deadline for when he will pick a permanent director?

GRAY: No. The President didn't indicate any set date to me except to say that after the election he would consider sending to the Senate the name of a permanent nominee.

Q: We understand that when you took office you were told that there were no secret dossiers in the FBI files. Have you had a chance to verify this?

GRAY: I think to verify it is a very, very large task. Let me say that I am proceeding on a daily basis to examine most carefully the matter of files and communications. It is one of thirteen agenda items that I compiled as ave-

nues of inquiry at the very outset and I am proceeding to have study papers developed on each one of these avenues of inquiry and I have been discussing each of them daily. Last week I met for two days at Quantico with the executive conference to review each of those study papers. And further than that the only thing I can say to you is that each day that I ask the question as to whether or not we maintain secret filed or political dossiers the answer is no, and based upon my study of the files to date I have not found any such files. But I am continuing to study both the index system and the filing system. And as you might know the index system is kept separate from our filing system and over in our filing area there are no files by name, they are all by numbers.

Q: Jack Anderson gave you the numbers, Mr. Gray. Were all those numbers just a bunch of hllalaloo?

GRAY: I don't have any comment on the information that Jack Anderson gave me because he didn't give it to me. He exercised his right as a newspaperman to write a column and that's his right. If I choose not to read his column that's my right, too. But I am

not responding directly to Mr. Anderson or directly to any other critic of the FBI because I have some tasks to carry out. I have some responsibilities to discharge to the American people but I'm going to do them in my own way. I feel those responsibilities very keenly. So I'm proceeding as Pat Gray would proceed.

Q: Do you mean to indicate by your previous answer that it's possible for secret files to exist without the knowledge of the director of the FBI?

GRAY: I think that you've got to consider that in the realm of human affairs and human endeavors most anything is possible. But you should not take that to mean that I believe it to be probable. I believe it to be improbable. But yet possible.

Q: That wasn't my question,

sir. I said did you mean to indicate in your previous answer that such files could exist without the knowledge of the director of the FBI?

GRAY: No, certainly not. I understand your question now. No there was no intent certainly to indicate that.

Q: Mr. Gray, yesterday's decision in San Jose (Angela Davis case) was just one of a series of conspiracy trials where the charges were found by the jury to be not quite good enough. Does that disturb you?

GRAY: No, it doesn't disturb me at all because there were more charges there than conspiracy charges. There were other more serious charges as you well know. And what we have here is an example, I believe, of American citizens discharging their duty to their country by serving on a jury, by hearing the evidence presented in open court and by making a decision in accord with the evidence, the instructions of the judge, and the dictates of their own conscience. And I think when you find American citizens willing to measure up to that responsibility and meet it head on that speaks a very great deal not only for our citizens but for our judicial process. And this does not disturb me in the slightest.

Q: Does the recent Supreme Court decision about nonunanimous verdicts in noncapital cases, are you happy with that?

GRAY: It wasn't disturb me at all and actually you know the decisions of the Supreme Court are not my area of special concern. I head the premier investigative agency in the world and my concern is that agency not really so much the decisions of the Supreme Court or the decisions of other courts. I am interested in them from the standpoint of a lawyer and from the standpoint of how these decisions might affect the work of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. But the fact that the Supreme Court elected to decide that case in that

manner, no it doesn't disturb me, cause I wouldn't for one minute substitute my judgment for that of the Supreme Court.

Q: What are you doing here today Mr. Gray?

GRAY: This is one of my planned visits to my field offices. I think this is one of the best utilizations of my time at the present time. I plan to come and visit each field office and let the people who are out here on the front lines battling in behalf of the American people to enforce the laws of the United States are doing a tremendous job and I think that they should see me and get the opportunity to measure me - and I should see them and get the opportunity to measure them and open the line of communication with them so that we can perform our work in a much better manner for the American people.

Q: In your new openness policy can you say how many agents are in the FBI Philadelphia office?

GRAY: No, sir. I would rather not like to say because there are some things that we can't talk about with anyone. These are things which go to our strengths and to our weaknesses and these are things which involve information which may be of considerable assistance to those who would like to be in a little freer position to violate the laws of the United States. Just a basic premise when you disclose your strengths or your weaknesses you assist those who would like to violate your laws. So I'm saying to all journalists that we're opening the window a little bit. But there are some things that we can't talk about and we'll try to be very honest and candid with you and we'll specify those areas when we come up against one and we'll give you our reason and you may very well differ with us. And I respect your right to differ with us, but I hope that won't affect our respect as persons for one another. There are going to be differ-

ences.

Q: Mayor Frank Rizzo professed a close relationship with the previous director of the FBI. Have you been in communication with Mr. Rizzo?

GRAY: I have not talked with his honor the mayor since my appointment as acting director. I did receive a letter from him asking me if I would consider coming to Philadelphia to speak on July 4 at Independence Day ceremonies, and I believe a letter is now on the way to him accepting that invitation to come. I believe so deeply in our country and for a celebration here in Philadelphia, the convention city of 1787, I would like to come.

Q: What are your thoughts in relation to the controversial school-busing situation?

GRAY: "I think, sir, that that's a subject that I'm really not qualified to comment upon other than in an individual manner and in my official capacity as acting director of the FBI, I really would like not comment upon that. Personally, I feel that the Nixon Administration has a record in the field of school desegregation that is one we can point to with pride. And I personally was involved with compiling a part of that record when I went into the south in 1970 at the express

direction of the President to assist those southern states to make that transition from the dual to the unitary school system without confrontation, or harm, or bloodshed or excessive trauma. And I worked with some magnificent citizens both black and white in the states of Mississippi and Georgia and we did a very fine job. And I think the whole thrust of my own personal belief is that this society must live as one. And that we must take steps to bring about the achievement of that objective, and that one of these steps might very well be the desegregation of our schools. And how we do that is another matter. The only thing I would oppose would be to oppose any meat-ax for

ham-handed-like tactics that would be doomed to failure from the start. And busing per se is certainly one of the tools available to a school board in making its decision as to how to proceed in school cases. But these are individual personal views of mine and certainly shouldn't be attributed to represent the position of the FBI, its official position.

Bulldog Image Maintained by New FBI Chief

By HENRY R. DARLING
Of The Bulletin Staff

The FBI may be getting a new image but the bulldog is still part of the picture.

L. Patrick Gray, the new acting director, has the same tenacious appearance as his predecessor, J. Edgar Hoover.

But whereas Hoover's resemblance to the bulldog was mostly a facial thing, it's an overall impression with Gray.

He has broad, thick shoulders and a tapering waist. His jaw is stern, his eyes steely and his ears — well, a bit oversize.

Firm and Cordial

But Gray's bulldog is a friendly one.

At a press conference in the local FBI office yesterday — an infrequent occasion in Philadelphia — he was firm but cordial and complimentary to reporters.

He got off on the wrong foot.

When a television reporter said his cameramen would be a few minutes late, Gray said he was on a tight schedule and left the room to confer with local FBI officials until the cameramen showed up.

Welcomes Questions

But when the formal questioning was over he told the reporters he welcomed their

questions. He described them as "specialists in their field" and said their task of informing the public was an important one.

He patted one of the newsmen on the shoulder as he left the room.

He has the quiet "command presence" of the submarine commander he once was. But he tempers his military bearing with the color and freedom he has already approved for FBI agents.

His shirt is blue, his suit tan and pinstriped and his tie wide, bright and figured.

He is 55 and has had no law enforcement experience. But he looks fit and healthy with the wrinkled, ruddy complexion of an outdoorsman. His graying hair is cut short, possibly as a concession to a deeply receding hairline.

At the press conference yesterday, his answers were animated, but he sat calmly and unsweated in the heat generated by both the TV lights and the questions.

Successor to Hoover To Be in Phila. July 4

The new acting director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, L. Patrick Gray, expects to come to Philadelphia to deliver the formal address at Independence Hall on the Fourth of July.

Gray announced this yesterday at a press conference here in response to a question about his relations with Mayor Rizzo.

He said he has received an invitation to talk at the July 4 celebration and a letter is being prepared accepting the invitation.